Get Set for Growth in Michigan 4-H Programming!



"E" communications......
entrepreneurial thinking......
bio products......are these
some of the skill sets Michigan
youth will have a chance to
explore through new MSU
Extension (MSUE) 4-H
programming?



Thanks to a new source of funding just for MSUE 4-H program development, cutting-edge programs like these may soon be available to our youth, along with the latest materials for long-standing 4-H program areas such as animal science, agriculture, food and nutrition, outdoor/environmental education, citizenship and science and technology.

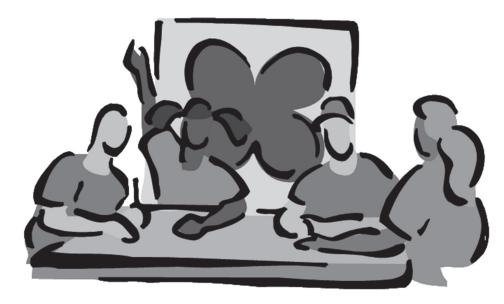
Starting with the 2006-2007 4-H program year (September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007), 4-H club members will contribute to the program's success through a \$10 annual participation fee. These dollars will only be used to develop, purchase, implement and/or update 4-H programming.

Half of the money will stay at the local level, to support 4-H programs right in your county. The other half will go to the state 4-H office, where 4-H's program leaders and curriculum development team can use that funding to create new program materials that will benefit clubs and youth all over the state!

What's your role in helping 4-H continue to meet the needs of Michigan's youth?

4-H needs your help to make this new program development process work. One of the easiest ways to collect the new \$10 participation fee is through the interaction that takes place in your club. There are several options for making that happen.

- 1. First, your county Extension 4-H educator will let you know what portion of the \$10 fee your club is responsible for collecting.
- 2. Provide your 4-H club families with a fact sheet (available on line at the 4-H



Web site at http://web1. msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/ youth/) explaining the new participation fee. Direct

any questions you can't answer to your county Extension 4-H educator.

- 3. Using your knowledge of your club members, make a recommendation to your county Extension 4-H educator as to which members should have the fee waived due to financial circumstances. Some counties may use free or reduced lunch status as a criteria for determining eligibility for a fee waiver (please check with your county 4-H educator).
- 4. Assuming your club is responsible for collecting all or some portion of the fee, you can choose how to proceed:
 - Collect \$10 from each participant (excluding those who have been recommended for or qualify for a fee waiver) at the time of enrollment or at a later date. If you have more than three



youth participants from the same family, their total family participation fee is capped at \$30.

- Plan a club fund-raising project to raise enough money to cover club member participation fees.
- Seek a sponsor to cover participation fees for your club.

- 5. Send the money to your county Extension office, along with enrollment forms (if you are collecting money at the time of enrollment) or with an enrollment fee report, if you are sending the money at a later date. You have until the deadline set by your county to submit participation fees for your club to your county office. Check the 4-H Web site at http://web1.msue.msu. edu/msue/cyf/youth/ for enrollment forms and reports.
- 6. Based on your knowledge of your club members' needs and interests, recommend program development ideas to your county Extension 4-H educator, that could make use of the new funds available in your county!

Questions? Suggestions? Direct them to your county Extension 4-H educator. This is a pilot year for the new 4-H participation fee, so get involved and help shape the program for the future!



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